



Building Communities Through Partnerships Conference

**ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
FEDERAL CONFERENCE CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303**

JUNE 15 - 16, 2006

AGENDA

DAY 1 – JUNE 15, 2006

10:00 am – 11:30 a.m. Opening Plenary Session

Presiding: Melinda Downing; U.S. Department of Energy; Environmental Justice Program Manager

- A. Stanley Meiburg; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Region 4; Deputy Regional Administrator
- U.S. Department of Energy; Savannah River Site Manager
- Bob Young; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Regional Director
- U.S. Department of Agriculture; State Director
- Georgia Environmental Protection Division; Deputy Director (Invited)
- Marilyn Murrell; National Small town Alliance; Chairman
- Charles Lee, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Justice

11:45 am – 1:00 p.m. Conference Luncheon

Presiding: Cynthia Peurifoy; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Region IV

Keynote Speaker: Dona DeLeon; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Senior Advisor for Cooperative Conservation

1:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Joint Session: How to Utilize Public Involvement Strategies to Address Environmental Justice Issues

Collaborations that combine effective strategies with efficient use of resources will be the most successful and sustaining.

- Moderator: Timothy Fields, Jr.; Vice President DC Operations; Tetra Tech EM Inc.

Case Study: Savannah River Site; Aiken, South Carolina

- Dr. Kenneth Sajwan, Savannah State University
- Dr. Mildred McClain; Citizens For Environmental Justice
- Lessie Price; Washington Savannah River Company
- David Rivers, Medical University of South Carolina

Case Study: ReGenesis Project; Spartanburg, South Carolina

- Harold Mitchell; ReGenesis
- Kate Stanley; Rhodia

Concurrent Sessions

3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Session I: Communicating With Communities When Disaster Strikes

This session focuses on creating and implementing a plan to maintain communication between communities, government and others in an emergency, and how EPA Region 6 maintained contact in the wake of Hurricanes Rita and Katrina.

Moderator: Jonathan B. Hook; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Region VI Director
Office of Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs, EPA Region IV

- Wynecta Fisher; City of New Orleans, LA; Deputy Director
- Albertha D. Hasten; Louisiana Environmental Justice Community Organization Coalition; Community Activist

Session II: Successful Solutions from the Community Action for a Renewed Environment and Collaborative Problem Solving Grant Programs

This session will present information from grant recipients and program staff from the U.S. EPA as it relates to the CARE and Collaborative Program Solving Grant Programs.

- Marva King; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Headquarters CARE Program
- Karen R. Thompkins; Dekalb County Board of Health; Decatur, Georgia
- Cindy M. Stachowski; Center for Environmental Information; Rochester, New York
- Abena Ajanaku; Georgia Environmental Protection Division
- Mildred McClain; Citizens for Environmental Justice; Savannah, Georgia

Session III: Let All Voices Be Heard – Stakeholder Involvement and Environmental Justice

This session will provide practical applications from the State and local governments on how to cultivate long-term relationships through which you can continue to create opportunities for partnerships and address the issues that affect the overall quality of life for communities. Lessons learned from emergency preparedness and disaster recovery efforts will be shared.

- Gloria Tatum; Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
- James Black; Center for Environmental and Economic Justice, Inc.; Biloxi, Mississippi
- James Abraham; Bethlehem Baptist Church; Graniteville; South Carolina
- Nancy Whittle; South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

5:00 p.m. - **DINNER (on your own)**

5:15 p.m. **Special Session**

DAY 2 – JUNE 16, 2006

Concurrent Sessions

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Session I: Resources Used to Build Healthy Communities

The changes associated with revitalization and environmental justice is top-tier issues for the neighbors that border Brownfield and Superfund redevelopment sites. Come take part in this dynamic discussion of these vital issues related to Smart Growth, grant opportunities (i.e., TAG, TOSC, Water, Agriculture), etc.

- Moderator: Kent Benjamin; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Headquarters
- David R. Lloyd; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Office of Brownfields Cleanup and Redevelopment
- Matthew Robbins; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Region 4
- MaryJo Bragan; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Planning and Analysis Branch
- Derek Jones; U.S. Department of Agriculture; Rural Development Office

Session II: Community Capacity Building Through Technology: Empowering Communities in the Age of E-Government

Expanding electronic government is one of five key elements in the President's Management Agenda. The value of an electronic government to citizens can be determined by the magnitude of citizen's access to their electronic government. This session will discuss one collaboration that helps small towns, community and faith-based organizations, limited resource farmers and schools gain access to computers, the Internet, training and technical assistance.

- Moderator: Melinda Downing; U.S. Department of Energy; Environmental Justice Program Manager
- Lonnie Sharpe, Jr.; Tennessee State University; Dr. Samuel P. Massie Chair of Excellence
- Ruthie Reynolds; Tennessee State University, Professor
- David A. Padgett; Tennessee State University; Associate Professor
- John Rosenthal; National Small Town Alliance

10:15 a.m. – Noon

Session I: Stakeholders Working Together to Determine Solutions

This session will provide attendees an opportunity to select from a variety of topics that are relevant to developing a comprehensive environmental justice program for Federal and State governmental agencies. The attendees will be divided into groups and asked to brainstorm on a specific topic. At the conclusion of the session, each group will present a summary of their action plan.

- Moderator: Mustafa Ali, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Office of Environmental Justice
- Geraldine Herring; U.S. Department of Agriculture; Special Outreach Program Coordinator

Session II: Environmental Conflict Resolution

On November 28, 2005, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) issued a memorandum directing Federal agencies to increase the effective use of environmental conflict resolution (ECR) and collaborative problem solving. This session will discuss the ERC directive and how agencies are implementing the directive

- Dale Keyes, U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution

12:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Closing Plenary and Luncheon with the Private Sector

Local government and communities must collaborate with business and industry to meet their energy, environmental, educational and economic development goals. This session will highlight ways to expand collaborations with business and industry.

Presiding: John Rosenthal; National Small Town Alliance

Keynote Speaker: William Kovacs; U.S. Chamber of Commerce

2:15 p.m. - Conference Adjourns

Conference Brought to You by:

U.S. Department of Energy
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Citizens For Environmental Justice
National Small Town Alliance